

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A change request input unit for utilization restriction information is provided in a user terminal of a data distribution system. A conversion unit gives a digital signature to the change request, encrypts it and transmits it to a data creator terminal through a communication unit and a network. Upon receipt of valid rewrite authorization for the utilization restriction information from the data creator terminal, the changed utilization restriction information is rewritten into a storage medium through a storage medium interface in accordance with the contents of the authorization given from a determination unit, thereby implementing a function in which a user can change the set utilization restriction under the valid authorization.